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(54) Title: ANTI-THYMOCYTE ANTISERUM AND USE THEREOF TO TRIGGER B CELL APOPTOSIS

(57) Abstract: Methods and products are described for inducing B cell apoptosis, using antibody-induced apoptosis. Specifically, polyclonal antiserum or one or more monoclonal antibodies, either alone or in combination, as well as fragments or variants thereof are employed in the methods and products of the present invention. These antibodies, or fragments or variants thereof, are capable of binding to B cell surface markers under conditions effective to collectively or individually induce apoptosis of the contacted B cell. Consequently, the methods and products of the present invention can be used therapeutically to treat, or as a preventative agent to protect against, a B cell-related condition or disorder.